

the loan of his birds, he informed me that a portion of them had been sent to Dr. Merriam in Washington, but the following were submitted to me, viz. : White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*), Golden-crowned Kinglet (*R. satrapa*), Hermit Thrush (*Turdus aonalaschkae pallasi*), Gray-cheeked Thrush (*T. aliciae*), Bicknell's Thrush (*T. a. bicknelli*), Olive-backed Thrush (*Turdus ustulatus swainsonii*), Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*), and Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*). Mr. Haines assured me the Thrushes had all been obtained between the middle of June and the middle of July; the other birds (the Kinglets represented by no less than seven specimens) bore labels indicating capture in the Catskills on various dates between June 10 and June 19, 1897. Suffice it to say, not one of these birds was in breeding plumage! This statement will, I think, be borne out by Messrs. J. A. Allen and D. G. Elliot, who also examined them.

Now the point of all this is that Mr. Haines's ornithological statements are not in accordance with facts, and as he has figured in print a number of times during the past year or two, it is but natural to view all of his work with suspicion. One article, 'The Kinglets and their Distribution,' (The Osprey, I, Feb. 1897, pp. 73-75), asserts that he has found both species breeding in the Catskills. As a matter of fact his "June" birds are *not* breeding birds. It is not likely now that his additions to the Catskill fauna will ever be published, nor will the breeding of Brännich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*) at New Rochelle, N. Y., as announced on a program of the Linnaean Society of New York, become a record, but it is time to put a check to such perverted ambitions, and while I am quite unbiassed by any personal animus, I feel that my fellow members of the A. O. U. should be warned against a person who has shown himself to be so eminently underserving of credence.

Yours very truly,

JONATHAN DWIGHT, JR.

New York, N. Y.,  
Feb. 21, 1898.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. ANDERS JOHAN MALMGREN, a Corresponding Member of the A. O. U., who died in Helsingfors, April 12, 1897, was born in Kajana, Finland, in 1834. His life was quite eventful and successful in many directions. Thus, in 1869, he became Professor of Zoölogy at the University of Helsingfors; in 1874 he was made Commissioner of Fisheries; and in 1889 he was appointed Governor of the northernmost province of Finland.

As a zoölogist Malmgren paid most attention to the fauna of the boreal regions of Europe, and he made valuable contributions to our knowledge

of the mammals, fishes, and especially of the annulata of the western portion of the Arctic Ocean. To us Malmgren is more particularly interesting because of his ornithological explorations in Spitzbergen. He made no less than three trips to that Ultima Thule viz., in 1861, 1864 and 1868, the ornithological results being published in Cabanis's 'Journal für Ornithologie.' Malmgren clearly understood and distinguished the geographical forms inhabiting that interesting archipelago, and it is important to record that he was a trinomialist long before that form of nomenclature was accepted in this country.—LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

DR. FELIX GEORG HERMAN AUGUST MOJSISOVICS VON MOJSVÁR, a Corresponding Member of the A. O. U., died on August 27, 1897, in the city of Graz, Austria, 48 years old. He was, at the time of his death, professor of Zoölogy and Comparative Anatomy at the Imp. Technical High School; 'Privat Docent' at the University; and Curator of the zoölogical division of the 'Johanneum,' institutions all located at Graz.

Mojsisovics von Mojsvár was particularly interested in the fauna of Europe and the anatomy of vertebrates, but he was not a prolific writer. As an ornithologist he contributed chiefly to the avifauna of Austria-Hungary, particularly that of Styria and of southern Hungary and Slavonia. In 1884 he undertook a trip to the latter provinces, the ornithological report upon which contained a great deal of information interestingly presented.—LEONHARD STEJNEGER.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of 'A Monograph of the Turdidæ, or Family of Thrushes,' by the late Henry Seebohm, edited and completed after his death by Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe. The work will be published by Henry Sotheran & Co., 37 Piccadilly, London, in 12 parts, at 1£ 16s per part. The work will be in Imperial 4to, and each part will contain 12 colored plates, by Keulemans. The edition will be limited to 250 copies.

D. APPLETON & Co. announce as in press and soon to be issued 'The Art of Taxidermy' by John Rowley, Chief Taxidermist at the American Museum of Natural History. It will be profusely illustrated, and treat the subject from the standpoint of the latest and most approved modern methods.

THE DELAWARE VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB held its eighth annual meeting January 6, 1898, at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, thirty-four members being in attendance. The club is in a more flourishing condition than ever before, the membership numbering seventy-five. During the past year sixteen regular meetings were held and one public meeting.

Among the more important papers read were 'The Genus *Sturnella*' and 'Molting of the Sanderling,' by Witmer Stone; 'Brant Shooting,' by I. N. DeHaven; 'New Jersey Shore Birds,' by Wm. L. Baily; 'Local Reminiscences of Audubon,' by Geo. Spencer Morris; 'Ornithological Photo-

graphy,' by Wm. L. Whitaker; 'Notes on Nests found in Salem Co., N. J.,' by Wm. W. Justin, Jr.; 'The American Barn Owl,' and 'Great Gull Island,' by J. Harris Reed; 'Fossil Birds and their Living Allies,' by S. N. Rhoads.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, I. Norris DeHaven; Vice-President, Chas. J. Rhoads; Secretary, William A. Shryock; Treasurer, Wm. L. Baily.

A SECTION OF ORNITHOLOGY has been recently formed by the members of the California Academy of Sciences interested in the study of birds, with the following officers: President, Leverett M. Loomis; Vice-President, John W. Mailliard; Secretary and Treasurer, Henry B. Kaeding.

The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month for the presentation of papers, informal discussion of matters relating to ornithology and the examination of specimens. The collection and library of the Department of Ornithology have been placed at the disposal of the Section.

THE UNITED ORNITHOLOGISTS OF MAINE held their second annual meeting at the rooms of the Portland Society of Natural History, Portland, Maine, Dec. 31, 1897, and Jan. 1, 1898. Twenty-six new members were elected, and also the following officers for 1898: President, Ora W. Knight; Vice-President, Wm. L. Powers; Secretary-Treasurer, L. W. Robbins; Editor, James Carroll Mead; Councillors, Herbert L. Spinney, and Prof. Asa L. Lane. A plan for work for the ensuing year was adopted and the following papers read. 'How I became an Ornithologist,' by Geo. A. Boardman; 'Talks on Maine Birds, by Prof. A. L. Lane; 'Loons on our Inland Waters,' by James Carroll Mead'; Ornithology in our Public Schools,' by Principal Wm. L. Powers; 'Migration of Birds as observed at Seguin Light,' by H. L. Spinney; 'Birds as Home Lovers,' by Ora W. Knight. The recommendation that "the family of Ducks, Geese and Swans (Anatidæ), and the Thrushes (Turdidæ) be the special objects of study," during the ensuing year was adopted. The report of the meeting occupies three pages of the 'Maine Sportsman' for February, 1898 (Vol. V, No. 54, pp. 8, 20, 21), and includes in full the paper on 'Migration of Birds at Seguin Light House,' by Herbert L. Spinney, 2d Assist. Keeper.

The 'Maine Sportsman' is the official organ of the United Ornithologists of Maine, and contains a department of 'Ornithology,' devoted to the work and interests of the Society, and often includes notes and papers of permanent interest and value. In the number for May, 1897, for example, is a 'Twenty Years' Review of the Scoter Duck' (*Oidemia deglandi*), by Herbert L. Spinney. Also in earlier numbers, 'A Visit to Some Maine Heronries' by O. W. Knight (July, 1896); 'Breeding of the Northern Raven on Seguin Island,' by Herbert L. Spinney (Aug., 1896); 'Random Notes on our Sea Birds, by J. Merton Swain (Sept., 1896); and 'The Ruffed Grouse of Maine,' by A. H. Norton. The Society also takes an earnest interest in the Protection of Birds.